

Demographic Questions

1. (D-1) Which form of the Opinionnaire® survey response are you using right now?	249	100%
Paper form response	169	68%
Web form response	80	32%
(D-2) Over your lifetime, how long have you lived or worked in King County?	249	100%
Less than 1 year	0	0%
1 - 5 years	15	6%
6 - 10 years	12	5%
11 - 19 years	30	12%
20 years or more	191	77%
Not Identified	1	0%
(D-3) What is your Gender?	249	100%
Male	143	57%
Female	102	41%
Not Identified	4	2%
(D-4) What is your Age Range?	249	100%
10 -19 years	5	2%
20 - 29 years	14	6%
30 - 39 years	20	8%
40 - 49 years	43	17%
50 - 59 years	55	22%
60 - 69 years	63	25%
70 - 79 years	37	15%
80 years or older	9	4%
Not Identified	3	1%
(D-5) What is your primary Racial or Ethnic Heritage?	249	100%
American Indian or Alaska Native (non-Hispanic)	0	0%
Asian (non-Hispanic)	3	1%
Black or African American (non-Hispanic)	3	1%
Hispanic or Latino/Latina	2	1%
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander (non-Hispanic)	4	2%
White or Caucasian (non-Hispanic)	212	85%
Blended Racial Heritage (non-Hispanic)	5	2%
Other (please specify in the ANSWER COLUMN)	7	3%
Not Identified	13	5%
6. (D-6) What is your primary Employment Status?	249	100%
Self-Employed or Business Owner	36	14%
Work for any For-Profit Business	59	24%
Work for any Non-Profit Organization	12	5%
Work for any City Government	2	1%

Work for any County Government	7	3%
Work for WA State, Federal or Tribal Government	7	3%
Work for any Educational Institution	13	5%
Student	8	3%
Unemployed and seeking work	8	3%
Homemaker, Volunteer, Retired, Disabled or otherwise not employed	95	38%
Not Identified	2	1%
7. (D-7) What is the highest level of Education you have completed?	249	100%
Grades 1-8	0	0%
Some High School	5	2%
High School Graduate (including GED)	12	5%
Some College or Technical School	35	14%
Technical School Graduate or Two-year College Graduate	19	8%
Four-year College Graduate	69	28%
Some Post-Graduate Education	39	16%
Post Graduate Degree (Masters, Ph.D., M.D., J.D., etc.)	69	28%
Not Identified	1	0%
8. (D-8) What is your primary Household Family Description?	249	100%
Single Parent with children	6	2%
Dual Parent with children	54	22%
Extended Family sharing one home	10	4%
Single-person household	39	16%
Living with a Roommate or Roommates	11	4%
Living with a Spouse or Companion	120	48%
Homeless with or without children or other family	1	0%
Other description	5	2%
Not Identified	3	1%
9. (D-9) Did you vote in the most recent Presidential election?	249	100%
No. I am not eligible to vote.	5	2%
No. However, I just became eligible and plan to vote in the future.	3	1%
No. However, I'm eligible and could have voted if I wanted to.	4	2%
Yes. I have voted in all elections since becoming eligible, with very few exceptions.	205	82%
Yes. I have voted in at least half of the elections since becoming eligible.	24	10%
Yes. However, I have voted in less than half of the elections since becoming eligible to vote.	3	1%
Yes. However, it was exceptional for me to vote and I have rarely done so since becoming eligible to vote.	1	0%
Some other reason	1	0%
Not Identified	3	1%
10. (D-10) If you live in King County, who is your King County Councilmember?	249	100%
Bob Ferguson (district #1)	11	4%
Larry Gossett (district #2)	41	16%

Kathy Lambert (district #3)	28	11%
Larry Phillips (district #4)	22	9%
Julia Patterson (district #5)	9	4%
Jane Hague (district #6)	41	16%
Pete von Reichbauer (district #7)	10	4%
Dow Constantine (district #8)	13	5%
Reagan Dunn (district #9)	59	24%
I work in King County but live elsewhere	4	2%
Not Identified	11	4%

Questions from the King County Executive

Quality of life in King County Government

<i>Summary (1=Best 5=Worse)</i>	
(T-1) <i>Where would you rate King County as a place to live?</i>	2.56
(T-2) <i>Where on the same scale would you say that King County stood five years ago?</i>	2.45
(T-3) <i>Now, thinking about the future, where on the same scale would you say that King County will stand five years from now?</i>	2.90
(T-4) <i>Compared to other communities you know, how do you think King County will compare five years from now?</i>	2.73

Your perception of King County Government

Thinking about the Regional and Local County services shown in a table up earlier on this page, please rate your overall satisfaction with the following qualities and values:

<i>Summary (1=Very satisfied 5=Very dissatisfied)</i>	
(T-5) <i>The overall quality of services provided by King County.</i>	2.74
(T-6) <i>The overall quality of customer service you receive from King County employees.</i>	2.80
(T-7) <i>The overall value you receive for your King County taxes and fees.</i>	3.17

Potential goals for King County

How strongly would you agree or disagree with the following primary goals for King County?

<i>Ranked Summary (1=strongly agree 5=strongly disagree)</i>	
(T-13) <i>"King County government protects natural resources."</i>	2.59
(T-8) <i>"King County government keeps people safe."</i>	2.71
(T-9) <i>"King County government promotes equity and social justice."</i>	2.74
(T-10) <i>"King County government keeps people healthy."</i>	2.77
(T-14) <i>"King County government promotes livable and prosperous communities."</i>	2.96
(T-12) <i>"King County government serves those most in need."</i>	3.01
(T-11) <i>"King County government provides high quality customer service and accountability."</i>	3.09

Please rate your overall satisfaction with the following communication areas from King County.

<i>Summary (1=Very satisfied 5=Very dissatisfied)</i>	
(T-17) <i>The County's website</i>	2.69
(T-15) <i>The availability of information about County programs and services</i>	2.94

(T-18) Overall effectiveness of County communication with the public	3.21
(T-16) The overall level of public involvement in King County government	3.31

King County's focus over the next 5 years

Below is a list of many of the services King County provides. These may not necessarily be the programs you believe are currently the *best*, or the programs you believe are the *worst*. We would like to know which programs you think the county should focus on the most over the course of the next five years, where "focusing more attention" means analyzing, improving and/or expanding, and "focusing less attention" means the opposite.

Ranked Summary (1=Focus Much More Attention 5=Focus Much less attention)

(T-22) Bus (Metro) transit services	2.26
(T-38) Road and bridge maintenance and repair	2.27
(T-25) Emergency services, including emergency medical services	2.30
(T-31) Police services	2.38
(T-28) Human services, such as mental health, drug/alcohol treatment, housing or other services	2.59
(T-23) Economic development and business services	2.63
(T-36) Public health protection and health promotion programs	2.66
(T-40) Solid waste and recycling services	2.66
(T-42) Superior and district courts	2.67
(T-41) Storm water drainage services	2.68
(T-24) Elections and voter registration	2.68
(T-39) Services at Public Health Centers	2.70
(T-35) Public defense	2.75
(T-26) Flood management services	2.77
(T-34) Prosecutor	2.77
(T-30) Local parks	2.87
(T-32) Programs to protect and preserve the environment	2.89
(T-37) Regional trails, parks and open space	2.89
(T-29) Local land use planning	2.92
(T-21) Building and development permits and inspections	2.92
(T-27) Forestry management services	2.95
(T-20) Animal care and control	3.05
(T-19) Agriculture management services	3.10
(T-33) Property assessment services	3.18

Values and Tradeoffs for service delivery decisions

Given that the countywide strategic plan will guide policy and decision making over the next five years, we would like to get your input on how you think the county should make decisions and think about tradeoffs across programs and services. The following value statements are intended to get a sense of which ones you think are most critical to the way the county should prioritize and make decisions around service delivery.

Ranked Summary (based on top 3 priorities - Max score=3)

"When King County is making choices between programs and services, I think those choices should be based on _____."

(T-46) ... maximizing the "benefit per dollar" spent.	1.54
(T-48) ... funding sustainability.	0.98
(T-45) ... effectiveness at accomplishing its goals.	0.98
(T-47) ... the ability to reach people most in need.	1.00
(T-44) ...the ability to promote fairness and opportunity for all across race and socioeconomic status.	0.61
(T-43) ...the ability to reach the largest number of people.	0.53
(T-49) ... some other choice.	0.26

Ranked Summary (based on top 3 priorities - Max score=3)

"As the county sets an agenda for the next five years I believe it should take into consideration _____."

(T-52) ... economic development and/or job creation in the region.	1.70
(T-51) ... the county's responsibilities in responding to natural disasters or emergency.	1.32
(T-53) ... the government's ability to provide a social safety net in the future.	1.15
(T-50) ... Environmental concerns.	1.14
(T-54) ... something else.	0.65

Ranked Summary (based on top 5 priorities - Max score=5)

Over the next five years, I would like to see King County, as my regional government, focus on _____."

(T-62) ... building an integrated, more effective public transportation system.	2.12
(T-65) ... building regional economic strength.	1.96
(T-64) ... accountability and transparency.	1.93
(T-59) ... improving public safety.	1.71
(T-55) ... environmental stewardship and growth management.	1.29
(T-58) ... working to reduce the number of people in jail and the dependence on our criminal justice system.	1.28
(T-60) ... assuring equal access to health protection, health promotion and provision of health services.	1.23
(T-66) ... improving the health and well-being of people and communities.	0.95
(T-56) ... leading the region in preparing for climate change.	0.64
(T-57) ... promoting equity across race and socioeconomic status.	0.51
(T-67) ... some other priority.	0.49

(T-61) ... promoting opportunities for children/child development . 0.44

(T-63) ... enhancing arts and culture in the region . 0.28



Questions from the King County Council

Questions on Criminal Justice

Background: In the area of criminal justice, King County funds District (misdemeanor) Court and Superior (felony) Court, the downtown jail and Norm Maleng Regional Justice Center in Kent, the Youth Services Center and juvenile detention program, Office of the Public Defender, King County Prosecutor, and King County Sheriff functions.

Criminal Justice, Public Health, Human Services and METRO Bus Service Statements ranked from Strongly Agree (1) to Strongly Disagree (5)

(T-74) "Preventing the transmission of communicable disease is an important government function."	2.12
(T-72) "I believe that prevention/intervention services within the criminal justice system are more cost effective, actually reduce crime, and should be prioritized at a higher level over incarceration."	2.24
(T-85) "I would still use the bus if there were no longer shelters at transit stops."	2.27
(T-82) "King County should prioritize human services that are proven most effective in reducing involvement in the criminal justice system, even if other programs are cut."	2.30
(T-75) "Walkable communities, good trail systems, or other elements that encourage healthy behaviors, are important to me."	2.32
(T-73) "King County should be involved in protecting and improving the health of residents."	2.35
(T-81) "King County should preserve programs that assist victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, even if other programs are cut."	2.44
(T-79) "In a budget crisis, King County should focus on maintaining human services that provide critical, life saving services (such as emergency homeless shelters in the winter), because demand for these services rises as economic conditions worsen."	2.44
(T-98) "Tax increases should be used to maintain existing programs before adding new programs."	2.45
(T-69) "All crimes should be investigated diligently."	2.48
(T-83) "Metro should reduce weekend and all day service on low ridership routes."	2.60
(T-87) "Even though Metro will have raised bus fares by \$0.75 over two years (up to a total of \$2.75 each way for a commuter bus trip), I would rather pay an even higher fare if it means keeping bus routes intact."	2.62
(T-100) "Residents of the unincorporated areas of the County should pay similar taxes to residents in cities."	2.67
(T-76) "King County should be involved in providing health services for people who are uninsured, like immunizations, family planning, and maternal and child support."	2.68
(T-77) "King County should provide a safety net for those with no other health care options."	2.73

(T-80) "King County should preserve proven programs that prevent or reduce homelessness, even if other programs are cut."	2.74
(T-70) "Some crimes are unavoidable and it is a waste of taxpayer resources to treat every crime as serious."	2.92
(T-78) "Funding human services should be a priority, even if it is not required by law for King County to provide these services."	2.92
(T-93) "I think further cuts to <u>Human Services</u> should happen before making reductions to other general fund agencies and programs."	2.99
(T-68) "My neighborhood should have more police patrols."	3.00
(T-90) "I think further cuts to <u>jails</u> should happen before making reductions to other general fund agencies and programs."	3.10
(T-89) "I think further cuts to <u>the District and Superior Courts</u> should happen before making reductions to other general fund agencies and programs."	3.16
(T-86) "Whenever possible, Metro should prioritize service that gets people to and from light rail lines or train stops over directly serving other destinations."	3.20
(T-84) "I would prefer if Metro reduced the amount of bus service available before they impact security and cleanliness of my bus trip."	3.27
(T-92) "I think further cuts to <u>Public Health</u> should happen before making reductions to other general fund agencies and programs."	3.28
(T-91) "I think further cuts to <u>bus service</u> should happen before making reductions to other general fund agencies and programs."	3.38
(T-88) "I think further cuts to <u>the Sheriff's department</u> should happen before making reductions to other general fund agencies and programs."	3.60
(T-99) "Tax increases should restrict implementation of any new programs, even those that have proven to be more successful than existing programs."	3.66
(T-71) "The county should reduce law enforcement services to urban unincorporated areas to encourage incorporation or annexation of these areas."	3.82

Questions from the Councilor Coordinator

In our previous Round 2 forums on the King County Budget (February-March, 2009), and even though no questions were asked about it, many Citizen Councilors offered an opinion (both for and against) on the creation of a state and/or county income tax. Because it came up more often than we would have expected, we wanted your opinions on three increasingly specific statements about the creation of an income tax for the exclusive benefit of the county.

Summary (1=Very satisfied 5=Very dissatisfied)

(T-101) "The State Legislature should give King County voters the option of authorizing a county income tax on the very wealthiest income earners of our county."	3.38
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103. (T-103) "The State Legislature should give King County voters 3.79
the option of authorizing a county income tax on the very
wealthiest income earners of our county but only if one or more
other general taxes (such as property and/or sales taxes) were
reduced across the board for everyone by the same amount raised by
the new county income tax **AND ONLY IF** there were strict limits
placed on total King County spending."
102. (T-102) "The State Legislature should give King County voters 3.89
the option of authorizing a county income tax on the very
wealthiest income earners of our county **BUT ONLY IF** one or more
other general taxes (such as property and/or sales taxes) were
reduced across the board for everyone by the same amount raised by
the new county income tax."



Process Questions

Please help choose future topics for the *Countywide Community Forums*, and help evaluate and improve the process you have just experienced, by answering the following process questions.

104. (P-1) **What topic would you like to discuss in future Countywide Community Forums?** 248 100%

- A specific transportation proposal 47 19%
- Environmental protection in King County 28 11%
- Tax Reform in King County 71 29%
- Public Safety and the Justice System in King County 40 16%
- Some other topic 31 13%
- Abstain 27 11%
- Object 4 2%

(P-2) *Did you previously participate in Rounds 1 or 2 of the Countywide Community Forums? (Round 1 was on the topic of Transportation in June/July 2008 while Round 2 was on the King County Budget in February/March 2009.)* 249 100%

- Yes. Both rounds 69 28%
- Yes. One of the two previous rounds. 78 31%
- No. I only recently found out about the forums. 46 18%
- No. I knew about the forums, but was not interested in the previous topics. 4 2%
- No. I wanted to attend, but was not able to. 37 15%
- Abstain 14 6%
- Object 1 0%

(P-3) *How do you rate the information presented in the 20-minute "Values and Performance of King County Government" video?* 249 100%

- Excellent 10 4%
- Good 67 27%
- Fair or average 69 28%
- Poor 48 19%
- Very poor 12 5%
- Abstain 41 16%
- Object 2 1%

(P-4) *In general, do you think the 20-minute "Values and Performance of King County Government" video was fair and evenhanded?* 249 100%

- Very fair and even handed 47 19%
- Somewhat fair and even handed 73 29%
- Somewhat biased 47 19%
- Very biased 18 7%
- Abstain 57 23%
- Object 7 3%

(P-5) Did you think the length of this Opinionnaire® has been:	249	100%
About right	80	32%
Long but OK	95	38%
Too long	44	18%
Too short	4	2%
Other	4	2%
Abstain	19	8%
Object	3	1%

(P-6) How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statement, "Overall, I believe the Countywide Community Forums are on the right track."	249	100%
Strongly Agree - 1	91	37%
2	76	31%
3	37	15%
4	9	4%
Strongly Disagree - 5	14	6%
Abstain	19	8%
Object	3	1%
Average Score	2.03	